AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for performing aggregate-portion-specific flow shaping in a packet-switched telecommunication system comprising at least one buffer memory and a multiplexer, the~~in which~~ method comprising:

- transferring digital information ~~is transferred~~ as constant or variable-length packets to the at least one buffer memory ~~,~~

~~- the packets arrive in the system~~ as at least two separate traffic flows ~~(V1-VL, traffic flow)~~,

- defining at least two~~one~~ shaping group~~s~~ ~~(k)~~, each of which includes at least one of the at least two traffic flow~~s~~ ~~(V1 - VL) arriving in the system is defined in the system, and~~

- setting restrictions of speed properties ~~(e.g., CIR, PIR, CBS) are set~~ for the at least two ~~one~~ shaping group~~s~~ ~~(k), which includes at least two traffic flows (V1-VL) arriving in the system,~~

~~**characterized** in that~~

- defining an ~~the~~ earliest permitted moment, at which a packet ~~in the system~~ can be forwarded by the multiplexer ~~from the system, is defined~~ as a ~~the~~ greatest value of ~~the~~ Valid Time to Send -values of the at least two ~~all the~~ shaping groups ~~(k),~~ to which ~~shaping groups (k)~~ a ~~the~~ traffic flow ~~(V1-VL)~~ represented by the packet to be forwarded belongs, and

- as a result of ~~the~~ forwarding ~~of~~ the packet, updating the Valid Time to Send -values of the same shaping groups ~~(k)~~ to which the forwarded packet belongs, a ~~are updated, in which the~~ Valid Time to Send -value of each ~~an individual~~ shaping group ~~(k)~~ expressing an ~~es the~~ earliest permitted moment~~,~~ at which a packet belonging to that ~~under the relevant~~ shaping group ~~(k)~~ can be forwarded~~,~~ without breaking ~~the~~ restrictions of ~~the~~ speed properties of that ~~the~~ shaping group

~~(k) being examined~~.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that the~~ all traffic flows ~~(V1-VL)~~ contained in a first ~~t least one~~ shaping group ~~(k)~~ are ~~all~~ also included in a second ~~some second~~ shaping group ~~(hierarchal shaping)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~ A system for performing aggregate-portion-specific flow shaping in packet-switched telecommunications, ~~in which~~ the system comprising: ~~equipment includes~~

- means for receiving constant or variable-length packets carrying digital information; ~~,~~

- a controller configured to: ~~means for~~

_____ - classify ~~ing~~ a packet arriving in the system as representing one of ~~the~~ traffic flows ~~(V1-VL, traffic flow)~~ arriving in the system, and

_____ - ~~means for~~ define ~~ing~~ at least two~~one~~ shaping groups ~~(k) in the system, in such a way that~~ each shaping group ~~(k)~~ includinges at least one of the traffic flows ~~(V1-VL) arriving in the system~~, and

_____ - ~~means for~~ set ~~ting~~ restrictions ~~(e.g., CIR; PIR, CBS)~~ of ~~for the~~ speed properties for the at~~each~~ least two~~one such~~ shaping groups; ~~(k), which includes at least two traffic flows (V1-VL) arriving in the system,~~ and

- means for forwarding the packets to an outgoing link or links,

wherein the controller is further configured to:
~~characterized in that the equipment includes~~

_____- ~~means, which the aid of which it is possible to~~ define an ~~the~~ earliest permitted moment, at which a packet ~~in the system~~ can be forwarded, as a greatest ~~the largest~~ value of ~~all the~~ Valid Time to Send -values of the at least two~~the~~ shaping groups ~~(k)~~, to which ~~shaping groups (k) the~~a traffic flow represented by the packet to be forwarded belongs, and

_____- ~~with the aid of which means it is possible to~~ update, as a response to forwarding the packet, the Valid Time to Send -values of the same shaping groups ~~(k)~~ to which the forwarded packet belongs, a ~~as a consequence of forwarding the packet, in which the~~ Valid Time to Send - value of each ~~an individual~~ shaping group ~~(k)~~ expressing an ~~es the~~ earliest permitted moment, at which a packet under that ~~the~~ shaping group ~~(k) in question~~ can be forwarded~~,~~ without breaking ~~the~~ restrictions of ~~the~~ speed properties of that ~~the~~ shaping group ~~being examined~~.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Equipment~~ The system according to Claim 3, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the controller is further configured ~~equipment includes means for, with the aid of which it is possible~~ to define all ~~the~~ traffic flows ~~(V1–VL)~~ contained in a first ~~at least one~~ shaping group ~~(k)~~ to ~~as~~ belong also ~~ing~~ to a ~~some~~ second shaping group ~~(hierarchal shaping)~~.